

must create sustainable energy sources, to put an end to global warming. To build our industrial foundation upon a new type of energy will create a surplus of jobs. These jobs must offer respectable wages, health care benefits, and opportunities for growth. If this is done effectively, we may be able to get the American middle class back on track, and simultaneously end the impending threat of global warming.

In order to allow our economy to recover from the recession, we must recognize the youth of America as our future. In doing so, we must stress upon implementing a better educational system to better engage the students, create more affordable collegiate education for the middle class. The middle class faces many challenges, yet are a cornerstone of the American economy. However, when attempting to send their children to college, the middle class faces yet another challenge. The wealthy are able to pay the college tuition, and the poor are given generous financial aid grants. However, the middle class is expected to pay thirty to fifty thousand dollars a year to send their kids to college, money which they don't have. This is unacceptable, and takes away a great deal of incentive for these kids to even attend college. Those who do attend college leave with a degree, but are then faced with enormous amounts of student loans. Lastly, we must involve the youth in the workforce of America. Not only will this strengthen our workforce, but it will also provide the American youth with savings for college, and teach them the value of work.

As I previously stated, in order to change, we must be willing to sacrifice. We must be willing to sacrifice the allure of bargain brands to support a local brand. We must sacrifice our tendency towards gasoline to find more sustainable sources of energy. If we are truly willing to sacrifice, we will change.●

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Catholic schools across our Nation that provide our children with an outstanding education while preparing them to lead lives in the example of Jesus Christ. This year, we mark the 40th year of celebrating Catholic Schools Week, shedding light on the extraordinary contributions these schools and their students make to communities across the country.

This year's theme, "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service," provides a solid representation of the mission of these schools in educating the whole person and forming our children into responsible stewards ready to take on the challenges of the future. Today, more than 2 million children are educated in Catholic schools in the United States. Ninety-nine percent of them graduate from high school, and 85 percent pursue postsecondary education. Such a rate of success is a great testament to the quality of our Catholic schools and their educators.

As an alumnus of a Catholic school in New Orleans, I have firsthand experience of the benefits of receiving a Catholic education. These schools are devoted to nurturing the young minds that pass through their halls each year, instilling in them the values necessary to become active and caring members

of their communities, cities, and Nation.

In a recent statement, Bishop George Lucas, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Education, stated:

Our schools have educated millions of young people over the years by providing them a superior academic background, always pointing the way to eternal life. The success of Catholic schools in handing on the faith, generation after generation, is a bright light in the history of the Church in the United States.

During the week of January 26 to February 1, let us recognize the steadfast commitment of the administrators, teachers, students, and families, who support Catholic schools across the United States, and appreciate their efforts to educate the youth of our Nation. In that respect, I am hopeful that the Senate will pass my bipartisan resolution celebrating Catholic Schools Week.●

NOTRE DAME SEMINARY

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, since 1923, the Archdiocese of New Orleans has offered a deeper understanding of Catholic theology and discipleship through Notre Dame Seminary. In its 90 years, Notre Dame Seminary has prepared men for ministerial priesthood in the Roman Catholic Church, promoting a spirit of humility, service, and sacrifice. In addition, the seminary offers graduate theological education programs to deepen the faith of both religious and laity.

Leaving the seminary, these young men are prepared to become servant leaders in their parish communities around the world and to profess the life and good works of Christ in their daily lives. Blessed John Paul II said, "The formation of future priests . . . is considered by the Church one of the most demanding and important tasks for the future of evangelization of humanity."

These 90 years are a testament to Notre Dame Seminary's steadfast commitment to this demanding and important task. Their stewardship of God's grace has blessed our communities, protected the vulnerable, comforted the sick, and offered hope to the broken. Men who have graduated from Notre Dame Seminary have served our communities in over 20 dioceses throughout the United States.

I am grateful for Notre Dame Seminary's leadership in our community and throughout the United States and celebrate their 90 years of preparing servant leaders for our church.

PORTOPERA

● Mr. KING. Mr. President, I am delighted to congratulate PORTopera on its 20th anniversary season.

Since its opening performance of "Carmen" in the summer of 1995, PORTopera has been a pillar of Maine's artisan community and inspired countless young musicians and performing

artists to pursue their passion for the opera. Over the years it has brought some of the world's greatest stars and most highly acclaimed productions to Maine audiences and played an invaluable role in enriching our communities.

PORTopera's dedication to excellence has been recognized around the country earning praise in *Opera News* for its 2012 production of "Madama Butterfly" and the *Boston Globe* for "Le Nozze di Figaro" in 2001. Furthermore, PORTopera's educational outreach initiatives such as the young artists programs and the opera-in-school program with the University of Maine have provided future generations of singers a place to hone their skills and learn from some of opera's greatest figures.

As Maine's artistic community continues to grow, I am pleased to recognize PORTopera for its leadership and tremendous accomplishments. Congratulations and thank you.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the order of the Senate of January 3, 2013, the Secretary of the Senate, on January 17, 2014, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 6968(a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appointed the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy: Mr. MIKE ROGERS of Michigan.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3547. An act making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2013, the enrolled bill was signed on January 17, 2014, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3362. An act to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require transparency in the operation of American Health Benefit Exchanges.

The message further announced that the House agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 75. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.